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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 3731
PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 06530.0276**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Marc O. SCHURR et al.) Group Art Unit: 3731
Application No.: 09/957,451) Examiner: D. Erezo
Filed: September 21, 2001)
For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR) Confirmation No.: 2507
FOLDING AND SECURING)
TISSUE)
*DO NOT ENTER
7/27/06
DC*

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the final Office Action mailed on April 18, 2006, the statutory three-month period for response extending through July 18, 2006, Applicants propose to amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments follow the claim amendment section of this paper.